[25th February 1929

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire, in view of the budget estimate that is going to be presented shortly before this House, what the policy of the Government is in regard to Forests ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It is under consideration."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire whether the Government are not going to enunciate any policy at all in view of the fact that the budget estimate has already been prepared ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" With reference to this particular matter, I may say that Government can come to a conclusion only after receipt of a report from the Chief Conservator of Forests which, I am afraid, will take some months."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" So, am I to take it that, so far as the present budget estimate is concerned, it is based on the old policy only ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Yes."

Development of the plywood and tea-chest industry.

* 1440 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to my question No. 249 answered on 8th September 1928, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) in what stage of development the scheme for the installation of an experimental plywood and tea-chest industry is ;

(b) with what machinery and at what cost is the installation to be made ; and

(c) who the officer in charge is, his antecedents, qualifications and the department to which he belonged ?

A.—(a) The question of purchasing the required machinery is under consideration.

(b) The total ultimate cost of the machinery and buildings required to complete the installation is estimated at Rs. 1,51,660.

(c) The question of appointing a Foreman Superintendent is under consideration.

Forest policy of the Government.

* 1441 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer given to my question No. 250 answered on 8th September 1928, stating that the whole forest policy was under the consideration of Government, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what changes have been made or are contemplated in the same with reference to conservation, exploitation, regeneration, sylviculture and staff, superior and subordinate and otherwise ; and

(b) what receipts, and increase or reduction of expenditure it will entail ?

A.—(a) & (b) The question is under the consideration of Government.